Work Task D3: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Presence/absence Surveys

Point of Contact: John Swett, LC-2320 (702) 293-8574

Purpose: Monitor southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) breeding

populations along the Lower Colorado River (LCR) and conduct

demography studies in four study areas to understand life requisites, habitat requirements, and population trends.

Conservation Measures: MRM1 and MRM2

Long-term Goal: Presence/absence surveys will be conducted for SWFL through the

life of the LCR MSCP as part of system monitoring.

FY05 Estimate: Reclamation has executed option year two of a contract with

SWCA for presence absence surveys and life history studies. This will cost approximately \$785,000 in FY05 including field support

and quality assessment.

Project Description: Reclamation entered into a contract with SWCA in 2003 to

conduct presence/absence surveys along the LCR from Separation Rapids in the Grand Canyon, including several tributaries of the LCR, to the Southerly International Boundary; and to conduct life

histories studies at four areas.

Accomplishments

to date: Presence/absence surveys and life history studies began in 1996

under a cooperative agreement with the San Bernardino County Museum. These surveys and studies were conducted under the 1997 Biological and Conference Opinion for routine operations and maintenance of the LCR. A one year contract, with the potential for four option years, was entered into with SWCA in

2003.